



SEEDS

The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program

Number 1-08

Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

SEEDS: The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program

Year after year the No. 1 industry in Ohio remains the same. No other economic engine comes close to making the kind of impact generated by agriculture, food, and the nursery and landscape industry. This economic powerhouse yields more than \$80 billion annually, employs one in every six Ohioans, and supports a diversified and dynamic economic sector that touches the lives of everyone in the state.

All citizens of Ohio are intertwined in food, agriculture, and the nursery and landscape industry. Producers, processors, and consumers all rely on quality, state-of-the-art research to help them make informed decisions and deal effectively with the wide variety of challenges that come along the way. Those challenges may include anything from livestock and crop production issues, to packaging and product development, to food safety and nutrition.

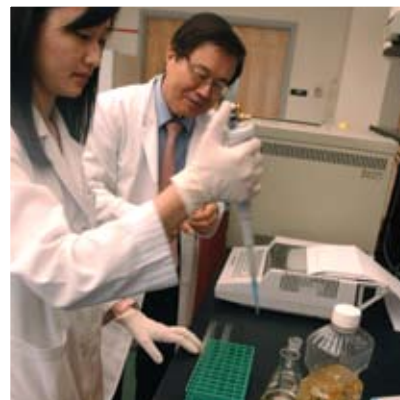
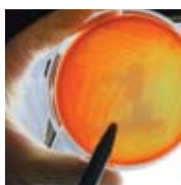
To deal with changing economic and societal trends as well as the impact of globalization, agriculture, food, and the green industry depend on innovators and researchers to generate new processes or products and increasingly link with other industries to take on common challenges and opportunities in key areas such as environmental restoration or the development of bio-renewable sources of energy, fuel, and industrial goods.

Addressing the differing challenges and vast opportunities of Ohio's largest industry is the ultimate goal of SEEDS: The Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program. SEEDS promotes excellence in Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) research, promoting research consistent with the mission and vision of OARDC and encouraging connections across disciplines, with industry and other external partners. It isn't just Ohio citizens that benefit from this cutting-edge research. The results from OARDC innovation enhance quality of life around the globe.

Established in 1996 and supported by an appropriation from the Ohio General Assembly to OARDC, SEEDS: The Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program is unique among U.S. state-assisted universities. In fostering high-quality research among OARDC- and College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences-supported scientists, SEEDS enables those scientists to collect the preliminary data needed to give them a competitive edge in national programs and provides them with leverage to attract industry support.

■ Ohio's No. 1 Industry

No other economic engine comes close to making the kind of impact—\$80 billion annually—generated by agriculture, food, and the nursery and landscape industry.



OBJECTIVES

SEEDS was created to encourage partnerships with industry and other stakeholders and to increase the competitiveness of OARDC/CFAES scientists in extramural grant programs. While these objectives remain the program's cornerstone, SEEDS has grown to include a total of seven objectives:

- Increase the competitiveness of scientists in extramural grant programs.
- Encourage partnerships with industry and other stakeholders.
- Encourage the development of interdisciplinary teams.
- Encourage international collaborations.
- Support the exploration of enterprises that are potentially new to Ohio.
- Provide undergraduate students with research experience.
- Provide graduate students with the opportunity to take part in the grant-writing/review process.



By providing seed money to develop the necessary preliminary data for a strong grant application or by matching funds to leverage external funding, SEEDS has proved to be a valuable program for scientists in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The SEEDS program looks forward to continued success and new partnerships with industry and other collaborators in Ohio and the world within the context of our global society.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Return on Investment

Overall, SEEDS has supported research projects totalling \$8 million in all categories and has received close to \$40 million in matching and extramural funding—a return of about \$5.00 for each dollar invested.



Creating Intellectual Property

Applications have been made for nine U.S. patents using results of initial findings. Three patent applications

have been granted, and three licensing agreements have been obtained.

Sharing Knowledge

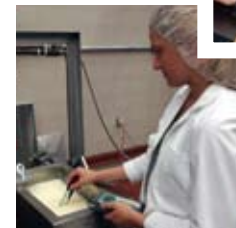
A total of 576 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts, abstracts, popular press articles, bulletins, and/or book chapters have been published, and more than 1,100 presentations have been made throughout the world.

International Collaborations

Scientists have established collaborations with colleagues from Africa, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Switzerland, Taiwan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Educating Tomorrow's Scientists

SEEDS-supported graduate students have produced 23 doctoral dissertations and 62 master's theses.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information on SEEDS: The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program, please visit our web site at: www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/seeds/ or contact 614-292-2950.



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